

Joint resolution

1. The Economic Committees of the V4 countries agreed that the Energy Union project shall fulfill all its strategic priorities. Fulfilling ambitious climate and energy policies of the EU is only one of its many aspects.
2. In this regard, it should be noted that the European Union has committed itself to complete the internal energy market, whereas all production sources are fully integrated into the market, until the end of 2014. This goal has not been fulfilled yet and Economic Committees of the V4 countries invite European Commission to take steps that will lead to its fulfillment.
3. To achieve the ambitious climate and energy policies of the EU until 2020 and 2030, especially in the field of renewable energy sources (RES), but also in improving energy efficiency (for example, in the development of high-efficiency combined heat and power generation), that pose significant burden primarily to the individual Member States, stability and legal certainty is an absolute necessity. Failing to meet these preconditions would jeopardize Member States' ability to meet their obligations and effective contributions to the 2030 EU binding targets. Economic Committees of the V4 countries therefore call on the European Commission to ensure this stability and certainty without any delay and ensure harmonizing its approaches to achieving the climate and energy policy goals of the EU and procedures of the European Commission in inquiries on the competition protection, which in many cases hinder or significantly delay further development of RES sector.
4. It is therefore proposed to simplify the European Commission's Guidelines on State Aid in the field of environment and energy; extend and modify exceptions in a Commission Regulation, that in accordance with Articles 107 and 108 of the TFEU declare certain categories of State Aid to be compatible with the internal market; and remove simultaneous RES promotion notification procedures of excessive length (as primary measures), that are now conducted with the individual Member States.
5. The V4 countries strongly support initiatives which aim to increase EU and regional energy security. The North-South Gas Corridor is one of the key projects in this respect. At the same time, the V4 countries do not back projects that are politically driven only, such as Nord Stream II.